

[54] **CIRCUIT FOR MEASURING A CAPACITANCE DURING CONSTANT CHARGING AND DISCHARGING PERIODS**

[75] Inventors: Robert Kindermann; Klaus Styhler; Herbert Ziegler, all of Nürnberg, Fed. Rep. of Germany

[73] Assignee: ABB Patent GmbH, Mannheim, Fed. Rep. of Germany

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Primary Examiner—Kenneth A. Wieder

Assistant Examiner—Glenn W. Brown

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Herbert L. Lerner; Laurence A. Greenberg

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A measuring circuit for measuring a capacitance according to the discharge method includes a measuring circuit input. A constant voltage source charges a capacitor to be measured at the measuring circuit input. The capacitor discharges through a discharge resistor with a known resistance being connected to the capacitor. At least one switch is connected between the capacitor and the constant voltage source. A flow control is connected to the at least one switch for controlling the at least one switch. A comparator is connected to the capacitor. A counter is connected to the comparator for counting clock pulses during a discharge. A PTC element is connected to the measuring circuit input in series with the capacitor. A monitoring device is connected to the capacitor.

12 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

